

Baptism Sunday

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / October 31, 2021

Today's Baptism Celebrations

9:00 Service

Ashley Rogers

Alex Stockman

Jonathan LaRuffa

10:45 Service

Chloe Merkle

Kaylee Grace Richard

Josh Botkin

Adam Webb

Anna Renner

Madison Godsey

1. Baptism **DOES NOT SAVE** us from our sins.

Eph. 2:8-9 “⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹**not a result of works**, so that no one may boast.”

Titus 3:5 “he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit...”

2. Baptism **DOES SYMBOLIZE** our salvation.

Rom. 6:3-4 “³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

3. Baptism **IS NOT NECESSARY** for salvation.

Luke 23:42-43 “⁴²And he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ ⁴³And he said to him, ‘Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.’”

4. Baptism IS NORMATIVE the New Testament.

Acts 8:36 “³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, ‘See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?’”

Acts 9:18 “¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹ and taking food, he was strengthened.”

5. Baptism is NOT FOR BABIES.

There are no biblical examples of anyone being baptized apart from belief in Christ (not even babies).

6. Baptism IS FOR BELIEVERS, just like you and me.

Acts 8:12 “¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.”

7. Baptism makes us MORE LIKE JESUS (since He was baptized).

Matt. 3:16 “¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized...”

8. Baptism grows us in our OBEDIENCE TO JESUS.

Matt. 28:19 “¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Small Group discussion:

1. Did you learn anything new or review something helpful concerning baptism? If so, what?
2. Call to mind and/or share about your baptism experience.
3. How are you encouraged or blessed by observing other people being baptized?
4. What reasons do you have for not having been baptized?
5. If you haven't been baptized, what steps of repentance should you take in order to be obedient to Christ in this way?